

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add the following new paragraph at page 1, line 5:

FIELD OF INVENTION

Please add the following new paragraph at page 1, between lines 8 and 9:

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please add the following new paragraphs at page 2, between lines 2 and 3:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIGS. 1-4 schematically depict a sequence of splicing a laid rope in accordance with the present invention.

Please amend the paragraph at page 2, lines 9-14 as follows:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In the method of the invention, as depicted schematically by Figs. 1-4, one end (100) of a first rope (200) is split in a first part (101) and a second part (102) comprising respectively a first and second number of strands, the first part (101) having a number of strands being at most one more than the number of strands in the second part (102). This means that a 3-strand rope is split in a first part (101) with 2 strands and a second

part (102) with only 1 strand. A 4-strand rope is split in two parts of 2 strands and a 6-strand rope in two parts of 3 strands.

Please amend the paragraph at page 2, lines 15-23 as follows:

In the method of the invention the first part (101) is tucked from one side into an opening (400) in another part of the rope (200) or a second rope (not shown), such that the opening (400) has a first number of strands of the ~~second~~ rope (200) on one side and a second number of strands on the other side, wherein the first and second number differ at most by one. ~~With a second (See Fig. 1). In lieu of using another part of the rope (200) as depicted in Figs. 1-4, the methods of the present invention may be employed using rope in this application is not only meant~~ a second or other rope as such, in case two ropes are to be connected with each other. ~~Thus, as depicted in Figs. 1-4, using another part of the rope (200) the splice will cause but also another part of the first rope, in case an eye is to be made.~~ A second rope may also be the other end of the first rope in case a round sling or a grommet is to be made. Generally the first and the second rope have the same number of strands.

Please amend the paragraph at page 2, lines 28-30 as follows:

In the method of the invention as shown in Fig. 2, the second part (102) is tucked from the other side in the same opening (400) in the ~~second~~ rope (200), which implies that both parts (101, 102) of the ~~first~~ rope (200) are tucked in different directions through the opening (400) in the ~~second~~ rope (200).

Please amend the paragraph at page 2, lines 31 bridging page 3, line 2 as follows:

In the method of the invention as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, steps b) and c) are repeated at least 3 times, whereby the respective openings (400) and (500) are separated such that the first part (101) and the second part (102) have crossed over at least all the strands of the ~~second~~ rope (200) once and the first and second parts (101), (102), respectively, leave the ~~second~~ rope (200) at respective last openings. The sequence wherein step b) and c) are repeated is of no importance for the efficiency of the resulting splice. It may be advantageous to first tuck the first part (101) several times, and than the ~~other~~ second part (102), because this will save time.